

Application No. 10/717,285
Amdt. dated Oct. 27, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated Oct. 20, 2005

Customer No. 01933

R E M A R K S

Entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of this application as amended are respectfully requested.

PRIOR ART OF RECORD

Upon review of the references cited, it is noted that the Chamlian reference (US Des. 335394), cited by the Examiner in the rejection of claim 14, is not listed on any Form PTO-892 or Form PTO/SB/08A. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner make this reference of record as well as the Jost reference (US 4779366) cited by the Examiner in the corresponding continuation-in-part application, USSN 11/014,061.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of the subject matter of claims 2, 12 and 16 and allowance of claims 41-45 is respectfully acknowledged. As detailed below, upon entry of this Amendment, all of the pending claims will have been allowed by the Examiner or depend upon a claim allowed by the Examiner.

CLAIM REJECTION-35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Verdon et al. (US 4980982).

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The Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed in view of amendments to claims 1, 3, 6 and 7. Specifically, claim 1 is rewritten as a dependent claim which depends from independent claim 45 and claims 3, 6 and 7 are amended to depend from claim 45.

In view of the Examiner's allowance of claim 45, claims 1, 3, 6 and 7 should be allowable, as well as claim 4 which depends from claim 3.

CLAIM REJECTIONS-35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 8-11 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Verdon et al. in view of Field (US 4594802). Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Verdon et al. in view of Chamlian (US Des. 335394). Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Verdon et al. in view of Fell (US 6412743).

The Examiner's rejections are respectfully traversed since all of claims 8-11 and 13-15 depend directly or indirectly upon claim 7 which has been amended to depend from allowed claim 45.

Therefore, in view of the Examiner's allowance of claim 45, claims 8-11 and 13-15 should be allowable.

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NON-ELECTED INVENTIONS

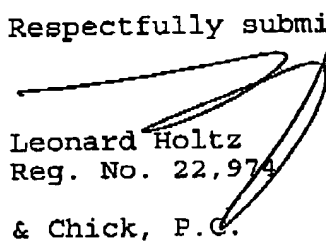
It is respectfully submitted that claim 45, as allowed, is generic to all of the species identified by Examiner in the Office Action dated January 24, 2005. Since claims 17-40, directed to non-elected species and previously withdrawn from consideration, depend directly or indirectly from allowed claim 45, these claims should now be considered by the Examiner.

AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE FEE

No fee is believed to be due for entry and consideration of this Amendment. However, authorization is hereby given to charge any fees which may be determined to be required to Deposit Account No. 06-1378.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,


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